

Maintenance Carpenter

If you like working with your hands and enjoy the satisfaction of building you should consider a career as a Maintenance Carpenter with the ministry. This job provides you with the opportunity to renovate and repair existing facilities and construct new ones.

After examining and discussing plans with your supervisor on a construction project, you are responsible for ensuring that enough materials are on hand to keep the project moving. For a larger project, you might act as a supervisor for several semi-skilled carpenters; assigning, instructing and checking work. Your creativity can be utilized when you prepare your own plans for the construction or renovation of minor projects.

Such a job requires a complete apprenticeship in carpentry and certification by the Ministry of Labour. A Maintenance Carpenter's job changes with the seasons and is as varied as the ministry's provincial districts. One day you might build a set of steps. Another day, winterize a building or paint furniture.

Radio Operator Clerk

Communication is essential in all organizations, and in the Ministry of Natural Resources, the Radio Operator Clerk holds a key position. Whether through VHF radio equipment or our telex system, you receive and transmit messages to other ministry installations and aircraft, assist O.P.P. aircraft, and handle questions from pilots of private aircraft regarding such things as flying weather and landable lakes. Your responsibilities also include working on daily weather reports, forest fire reports and standard log books. But perhaps most importantly, as a Radio Operator Clerk you are an important part of our emergency action and prevention team when you provide a communications system during fire and flood emergencies.

All you need to enter this challenging career is either a Second Class Radio Operator Certificate or a General Radio Telephone Operator Certificate, and previous experience in radio operating. The ability to teach and supervise is also valuable since you will have the opportunity to train seasonal staff members on radio operation, weather information and log book recording.

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Maintenance Services

Job Profiles



Ontario

Ministry of
Natural
Resources

Introduction To Ministry of Natural Resources Maintenance Services

The Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources welcomes both men and women to the Maintenance Services staff.

This ministry provides a wide variety of services for the people of Ontario. Among other responsibilities, we create opportunities for outdoor recreation and manage the province's natural resources. Our Maintenance Services personnel help to keep our programs running smoothly.

In this field we employ people with talents that vary greatly. Some people have a great deal of training and skill in the operation of vehicles and aircraft as do our bush pilots. Others hold positions involving specific trades or crafts used in the upkeep of ministry vehicles, aircraft, equipment and buildings. All the jobs are vital and interesting.

The competition for these jobs can be tough. We recommend that you obtain as much training and experience as you can before applying.



Senior and Maintenance Mechanics

As a mechanic, you are responsible for the maintenance and repair of motorized and mechanical equipment. The nature of the job provides you with ever-changing assignments so no single day can be considered typical.

A good working knowledge of electrical and plumbing methods is important, as our Maintenance Mechanics face minor electrical or plumbing-oriented problems in addition to taking water samples, meter and pressure readings and checking inventories.

A Senior Mechanic regularly inspects our vehicles and equipment to make sure they are being properly maintained. But breakdowns do occur, so you are not only asked to do repairs, but also analyse whether the problem is mechanical or the fault of the operator. Your training is valuable in recommending additional equipment to be purchased. To help reduce the number of future breakdowns, you might be involved in staff training programs such as operational safety and mechanical repair, or co-ordinate a driver training and examination program.

A Class "A" Mechanic licence from the Ministry of Labour and proven experience as a licenced Motor Vehicle Repairer are the basic requirements. Add to these initiative and good judgment and the title of Senior Mechanic with the Ministry of Natural Resources could be yours.

VFR Pilot

Whether carrying out infra-red aerial photography, stocking a lake with fish by air or water-bombing a forest fire, the job of a VFR Pilot is much more than just flying. A VFR Pilot is required to have a Commercial Pilot's Licence. In this career you will of course, need a good knowledge of flight procedures and regulations, the ability to navigate and to interpret maps used in bush flying operations. You must also be able to handle radio communications.

Most importantly, these skills are used to carry out forest fire patrols to detect and locate fires. When one is spotted, you may be responsible for analysing the fire situation and recommending the strength and kind of attack needed to put the fire out. The fire boss will rely on you to communicate the condition of and changes to the fire, transport equipment and personnel, water-bomb, and map the area. Sometimes it gets tricky. In the event of heavy smoke or bad weather, you will have to guide the pilots of other bombers and helicopters when they cannot see.

You assist fish and wildlife personnel in carrying out their projects. These can include stocking lakes with fish or conducting aerial surveys of deer and moose populations. You might even be given aerial photography assignments for mapping and infra-red remote sensing.

The ministry uses turbo Beaver and piston Otter aircraft on either floats, wheels or skis. A minimum of 1,500 flying hours on aircraft equipped with floats and wheeled skis is required.

Air Engineer

Aircraft are used for a variety of important functions in the ministry. Air Engineers are the special members of our team who keep the aircraft flightworthy and are as vital as the pilots.

Air Engineers carry out mandatory inspections and record log entries to certify a craft airworthy according to Ministry of Transportation and Communications guidelines. If necessary, your responsibility would also include major overhauls and repairs, involving everything from ordering the necessary parts to assessing the cause of the breakdown. Operational checks of the aircraft before flights must be performed and you might also be required to start and warm the aircraft.

Other duties include changing the aircraft from floats or wheels to skis twice a year, launching, beaching and tying down the aircraft and maintaining airbase equipment and records.

An Air Engineers "M" Licence from the Ministry of Transportation and Communications is normally required as well as demonstrated experience in the upkeep of aircraft and engines. The pilot relies on your skills to help prevent serious mishaps. The detection and correction of malfunctions is a vital job.